

Recommendations and Problems

Monthly Reports for April 1959

CARTOGRAPHY DIVISION

The biggest problem facing the Division is the increasing demands for cartographic support resulting from end-of-year efforts to meet schedules. Every effort will be made to keep abreast of commitments but we are faced with an overload in the Reproduction and Services Division which in turn affects our ability to meet our deadlines. Work in our Lab has been temporarily suspended with one person assigned to assist in the Drafting Section and the other to support work in the Chart and Graph Section as needed.

FAR EAST COMPILATION BRANCH

Reproduction would be of much more service to this Division if we were able to get service jobs from it with a greater degree of dispatch. So often we have a sudden need for a set of film positives and are unable to get it within a couple of days or less unless we go to extreme lengths to bring pressure to bear. It is felt that copying services of this sort should be more readily available to us.

USSR-SATELLITES BRANCH

Support to DDP on Border Transportation Studies:

Several months ago the Branch completed a series of overlays on large scale maps of the USSR-Afghan border, 25X1C10b

25X1C10b Recently a request for revision of several overlays was received. As a result of this experience the Branch is convinced that the GRA would have produced a better study in the first place, since it was apparent then that the DDP analyst was not using the best geographic source materials available. It is proposed that DDP be made aware of the GRA's superior capabilities in this kind of project.

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## GEOGRAPHY DIVISION

GG/E An unusual amount of overtime has been and will be required to meet the NIS FY 1959 commitments before 1 July. This was anticipated, however, since most of the Chapters IX for this year are large, the staff has not been complete, and the preparation of the Chapter I Annuals has reduced the time available for coordination of Chapters IX and Section 19. The addition of the new member to the Coordination Staff should prevent a recurrence of the end-of-the-fiscal-year pressure in FY 1960.

25X1A9aed - Approv

GG/N As D/GG representative to the County Fair exhibit in April, [REDACTED] suggests that the Division display is ineffective and leaves visitors confused by the clutter of documents spread over two tables.

GG/E One member of the Division suggests that if proofs on all maps for the MR were prepared, errors such as those on Map 27553 (MR-57) would be less likely to occur.

## FAR EAST/PACIFIC BRANCH

The recent "flaps" on Tibet have emphasized the need for key officials to be reminded periodically of the availability of certain published, evaluated, finished intelligence. An urgent weekend query for information on Tibet failed to disclose the fact that GM-9, Resistance in Tibet, was available and that it would have sufficed to answer some of the immediate questions involved. It is recommended that it be made a standard practice that, when it becomes obvious that a "flap" is developing in any specific area, the regional branch concerned forward to the Division Chief, the Area Chief, and the AD/RR a short bibliography of pertinent finished geographic intelligence and selected maps. Such a procedure would place the ORR officials in the favorable position of "anticipating" some of the inevitable queries from the DD/I and DCI.

25X1A6d Examinations of materials in the Vital Materials Repository at [REDACTED] reveals that the map collection is in quite good shape but that there is a definite need for more "hard copies" of basic reference works, guide books, and similar items. It is recommended that regional branches be more active in specifying items to be held there and in following through to insure that they are actually procured and filed.

## USSR BRANCH

During the past year, several significant changes have been made in both the wording and interpretation of the regulations governing language awards (which have never been completely satisfactory): As a result, the long-range effects of the language-award program will, we believe, deviate further and further from its stated purposes. Under present regulations, as currently interpreted, the employee interested in obtaining the highest possible maintenance award in a language useful in his work should (1) withdraw from all duty-time

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## GEOGRAPHY DIVISION

## USSR BRANCH (Cont'd)

language training, no matter how few hours it involves, and (2) cease using the language in his work. Furthermore, he would obtain the highest total of awards if he concentrated his efforts on languages of no foreseeable utility in his assigned duties.

## NEAR EAST/AFRICA BRANCH

From the recent contact with the Division exhibit at the "County Fair" it would appear that the Division is not putting its best foot forward in this effort. The display of publications covering the surface of the allotted two tables appeared to overwhelm most visitors and did not effectively present the capabilities of the Division. An effort should be made to provide a more informative presentation of the Division's activities and capabilities.

## SPECIAL RESEARCH BRANCH

25X1A9a Special summer help is requested to assist in cutting back and weeding the Western Hemisphere files - a backlog task too large for [REDACTED] to accomplish with the amount of assistance available along with [REDACTED] other duties. Piecemeal amounts of help are not adequate. When it is considered that the files represent a whole Branch's activities over a number of years, it is understandable that this is more than just a routine housecleaning job; on the other hand, if the situation could be stabilized to the present cut-back position, it would be manageable and could be efficiently handled on a day-to-day basis -- not the case at present.

## EDITING AND REVIEW STAFF

The workload for the month has been exceptionally irregular. Either manuscripts were slow in coming, or they were of high priority and had to be edited and typed at top speed. The editorial staff hopes that the flow of manuscripts can be regularized.

The recent D/GG Contribution to NIE 11-6-59, Soviet Science and Technology, raises an important problem for GG/R editors. At no stage of the initial planning did the editors participate. As a result, when the manuscript was submitted, the editors had no information on what was required or how it should be presented. If this information had been available, the amount of time spent in revision might have been reduced. As it was, the final revision (G/I 59-23) was not sent to Ch/G until 17 April. In the future, GG/R would like to at least be an auditor when plans for an NIE contribution are discussed.

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MAP LIBRARY DIVISION

GL/P It is important that the planned reduction in translation services should not reduce the present program of translation and transliteration of bibliographic information on maps needed for proper cataloging.

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The typing assistance of [REDACTED] from the Office of the Chief, D/GG, made possible maintenance of the publications schedule for the "Acquisitions List for Maps of Foreign Areas" for the weeks of 6, 13, and 20 April. Beginning with the week of 27 April, [REDACTED] services were no longer available, and further temporary measures were effected to accomplish the necessary typing for publication of the list. Temporary arrangements for typing assistance will be made on a week-to-week basis until after 15 May, when it is anticipated that the typing service at the clerical pool will be resumed. Two months of temporary measures for typing assistance have constituted an annoying handicap to the Acquisitions Unit.

GL/C